

French House
Northfield, Ohio

HABS No. 0-252

HABS
OHIO
77-NOREV

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French House
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HABS No. O-252

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OHIO

79-NORTH

Owner (or Custodian) Goodrich Home Foundation

Date of Erection Built about 1850

Architect

Builder Mr. Williams

Present Condition In fair condition

Number of Stories Two story with a basement

Materials of Construction Stone construction. Shingle roof.
Fireplace in basement with Dutch oven.
Adjoining cornice and gutter of stone.

Other Existing Records: Two drawings
One page of history

Additional Data:

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77. Notes

The French House is located on Town Line Road (about 3 feet back from the Road), Route 8, about 4 miles south of Northfield. It was built prior to 1850 by Mr. Williams who in 1852 passed away while on a trip to California.

The building is of stone construction, has a basement and 2 stories, stone gutter and shingle roof. There was an abundance of stone on the property. Some of this was used in the construction of the building. Large shipments of stone, from this quarry, were also made to Cleveland. It is stated that the stone was hauled by Ox teams to Canal and then to Cleveland, where a good portion of it was used in building the Old Union Station and docks.

There was a large cheese factory located in the vicinity, and travelers as well as buyers of cheese used this particular building as their place of abode, in that it was, at that time, used as a lodging house.

It is rumored, that one of the tenants who occupied this house, having become mentally deranged, drowned her children in the old well on the property.

The Goodrich Home Foundation acquired the property in 1912, and it is now being used as a Children's Summer Resort. There is an interesting old Dutch oven and fireplace in the cellar.

Historic American Buildings Survey
William A. Bohnard, District Officer
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